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(703) 816-4406**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**
PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY!!!!Our Ref.: 960-29Your Ref.: 08/836,734Date: April 8, 2004

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

BECKMANN et al.

Appln. No. 08/836,734

Filed: July 2, 1997

FOR: LGMD GENE CODING FOR A CALCIUM DEPENDENT PROTEASE

Confirmation No.: 6656

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T.C. / Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: J.N. Fredman

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April 8, 2004

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
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Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application the undersigned attorney and/or agent of record, hereby appoints Gary R. Tanigawa, Registration No. 43,180, c/o Nixon & Vanderhye PC, 8th Floor, 1100 N. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22201-4714, an associate attorney and/or agent to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

All communications in connection with the prosecution of the above-identified application should continue to be sent to Nixon & Vanderhye PC, 8th Floor, 1100 N. Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22201-4714.

Respectfully submitted,

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